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Agriculture in Idaho

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Idaho Potato Production Unchanged From November

Idaho's potato production is expected to total 115 million cwt, unchanged from the November forecast and down 12 percent from last year's 130 million cwt. This is the lowest production level in Idaho since 1989. Planted acres of 305,000 and harvested acres of 304,000 are down 45,000 acres from 2007. This is the fewest acres planted and harvested since 1980. Statewide, yield is 378 cwt (field-run basis), up 5 cwt from last year.

Yield in the 10 Southwestern counties, at 525 cwt, increased 35 cwt from 2007. This is the highest yield recorded for this area, although acreage for the 10 Southwest counties, at 15,000 acres planted and harvested, is at the lowest level since 1963. Because of the acreage reduction, total production in the area is down 23 percent from last year at 7.88 million cwt. In Idaho's "other counties," yield is estimated at 370 cwt, compared to 365 cwt a year ago. Other area production from 289,000 harvested acres is expected to total 107 million cwt, 11 percent below last year's 120 million cwt.

Potatoes: Planted, Harvested, Yield and Production By Seasonal Group, State, and United States, 2007 – 2008

Season and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>				<i>Cwt</i>		<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	
WINTER 1/ SPRING 1/ SUMMER 1/ FALL	11.5	11.0	11.5	11.0	215	230	2,473	2,530
	72.8	69.2	70.2	67.7	282	289	19,820	19,573
	53.7	48.5	51.2	46.2	332	324	16,997	14,946
California	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.8	480	505	3,792	3,939
Colorado	59.2	57.0	59.1	56.9	355	375	20,981	21,338
IDAHO, ALL	350.0	305.0	349.0	304.0	373	378	130,010	114,805
- 10 SW Counties	21.0	15.0	21.0	15.0	490	525	10,290	7,875
- Other Areas	329.0	290.0	328.0	289.0	365	370	119,720	106,930
Maine	57.1	56.0	57.0	54.7	295	265	16,815	14,496
Massachusetts	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.4	310	260	837	624
Michigan	42.5	43.0	42.0	42.5	350	320	14,700	13,600
Minnesota	50.0	50.0	47.0	48.0	440	420	20,680	20,160
Montana	11.3	10.9	11.2	10.8	330	330	3,696	3,564
Nebraska	21.0	19.5	19.8	19.3	415	430	8,217	8,299
Nevada	7.3	5.8	7.3	5.8	390	410	2,847	2,378
New Mexico	5.5	5.8	5.4	5.8	370	400	1,998	2,320
New York	19.0	18.0	18.3	17.8	285	320	5,216	5,696
North Dakota	97.0	82.0	91.0	81.0	260	280	23,660	22,680
Ohio	3.2	2.5	3.0	2.1	330	325	990	683
Oregon, ALL	36.5	35.3	36.5	35.3	554	521	20,238	18,387
- Malheur, Co.	3.5	2.8	3.5	2.8	455	415	1,593	1,162
- Other Areas	33.0	32.5	33.0	32.5	565	530	18,645	17,225
Pennsylvania	10.5	10.0	10.0	9.5	220	265	2,200	2,518
Rhode Island	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	300	285	180	143
Washington	165.0	155.0	165.0	155.0	620	600	102,300	93,000
Wisconsin	64.5	63.5	64.0	62.0	440	415	28,160	25,730
TOTAL FALL	1,010.8	930.4	996.8	921.2	409	406	407,517	374,360
UNITED STATES	1,148.8	1,059.1	1,129.7	1,046.1	396	393	446,807	411,409

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from an earlier forecast.

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Idaho Potato Stocks Down 10 Percent from Last Year

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers, and processors in Idaho on December 1 totaled 83.0 million cwt, 9.00 million cwt less than on hand December 1, 2007. Disappearance, at 31.8 million cwt is down from last year's 38.0 million cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest counties totaled 4.00 million cwt, down from last year's 4.90 million cwt. The Other counties' stocks, at 79.0 million cwt, were down from the 87.1 million cwt stored on December 1, 2007.

Nationally, the 13 major potato States held 242 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2008, down 9 percent from last year and 7 percent below December 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage account for 66 percent of the 2008 fall storage States' production, slightly below December 1, 2007. Potato disappearance, at 123 million cwt, was 6 percent below last year and down 5 percent from December 1, 2006. Season to date shrink and loss, at 13.0 million cwt, was down 8 percent from the same date in 2007 and down 2 percent from 2006.

Production and Total Stocks of Fall Potatoes Held by Growers, Processors and Local Dealers on December 1, 2007 and December 1, 2008 1/

STATE	CROP OF 2007			CROP OF 2008		
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2007	DECEMBER 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2008	DECEMBER 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>		<i>Percent</i>
California	3,792	2,000	53	3,939	1,900	48
Colorado	20,981	15,200	72	21,338	16,400	77
Idaho	130,010	92,000	71	114,805	83,000	72
Maine	16,815	12,900	77	14,496	10,800	75
Michigan	14,700	8,800	60	13,600	8,000	59
Minnesota	20,680	13,400	65	20,160	13,000	64
Montana	3,696	3,500	95	3,564	3,500	98
Nebraska	8,217	5,300	65	8,299	5,300	64
New York	5,216	2,900	56	5,696	2,600	46
North Dakota	23,660	14,500	61	22,680	14,800	65
Oregon	20,238	18,000	89	18,387	15,900	86
Washington	102,300	59,000	58	93,000	49,500	53
Wisconsin	28,160	20,000	71	25,730	17,500	68
13 STATES	398,465	267,500	67	365,694	242,200	66
Klamath Basin 2/		4,200			4,000	

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2008 totaled 24.5 million cwt. 2/ Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co., OR. Data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

U.S. Dairy Products October 2008 Highlights

Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 842 million pounds, 2.0 percent above October 2007 and 5.8 percent above September 2008.

Italian type cheese production totaled 343 million pounds, 1.4 percent below October 2007 but 2.8 percent above September 2008.

American type cheese production totaled 342 million pounds, 6.5 percent above October 2007 and 7.9 percent above September 2008.

Butter production was 130 million pounds, slightly below October 2007 but 7.4 percent above September 2008.

Dry Milk Powders: (comparisons with October 2007)
Nonfat dry milk, human --- 121 million pounds, up 21.1 percent. Skim milk powders --- 17.6 million pounds, down 18.1 percent.

Whey products: (comparisons with October 2007)
Dry whey, total --- 85.2 million pounds, down 4.2 percent. Lactose, human and animal --- 60.2 million pounds, down 2.2 percent. Whey protein concentrate, total --- 36.7 million pounds, up 13.8 percent.

Frozen products: (comparisons with October 2007)
Ice cream, Regular (hard) --- 69.2 million gallons, down 1.2 percent.
Ice cream, Lowfat (total) --- 27.4 million gallons, down 6.5 percent.
Sherbet (hard) --- 4.18 million gallons, up 1 percent.
Frozen Yogurt (total) --- 4.48 million gallons, up 1.7 percent.

Mid-November Prices Received by Farmers

Preliminary indications of prices received by Idaho farmers for the month of November showed increases for feed barley, potatoes, steers and heifers and calves. Prices decreased for alfalfa hay, all barley, malting barley, dry beans, all wheat, beef cattle, cows and all milk.

For the U.S., the preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November, at 139 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 12 points (7.9 percent) from October. Producers received lower prices for soybeans, corn, lettuce, and hogs. Higher commodity prices were received for tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, and cantaloupes.

Prices Received by Farmers for Selected Commodities, November 2007 - November 2008

Commodity	Unit	Idaho			United States			
		November 2007	October 2008	November 2008 ^{1/}	November 2007	October 2008	November 2008	
							Price ^{1/}	% Parity
CROPS:								
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	148.00	229.00	225.00	136.00	172.00	163.00	--
Barley, All	Bu.	4.19	6.52	5.37	4.31	5.61	4.77	53
Feed	Bu.	4.33	3.58	3.75	5.05	4.14	3.54	--
Malting	Bu.	4.14	7.48	5.65	4.10	6.28	5.35	--
Dry Beans	Cwt.	25.50	39.20	39.10	28.10	40.00	33.10	50
Potatoes ^{2/}	Cwt.	5.50	6.60	7.25	6.47	7.38	8.87	44
Fresh ^{3/}	Cwt.	6.40	12.10	--	8.12	16.57	--	--
Processing	Cwt.	5.10	5.50	--	5.63	5.57	--	--
Wheat, All	Bu.	6.53	6.85	6.49	7.39	6.67	6.13	47
LIVESTOCK &								
Beef Cattle ^{4/}	Cwt.	76.30	76.20	73.30	89.90	87.90	87.20	35
Cows ^{5/}	Cwt.	41.40	45.70	41.90	43.90	48.30	44.70	--
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	93.50	88.10	88.80	96.00	93.00	93.00	--
Calves	Cwt.	105.00	89.00	92.00	122.00	107.00	106.00	29
Lambs	Cwt.	98.00	101.00	--	97.10	97.50	--	--
Milk, All ^{6/}	Cwt.	20.10	16.70	15.70	21.90	17.70	17.40	35 ^{7/}

1/ Mid-Month. 2/ Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed and livestock feed. 3/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock prices. 4/ "Cows" and "steers & heifers" combined. 5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. 6/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling. 7/ Seasonally adjusted price as percentage of parity price.

United States Price Index Summary Table

Index 1990-1992 =100	October 2007	November 2007	October 2008		November 2008 Preliminary
			Preliminary	Revised	
Prices Received	141	141	145	151	139
Prices Paid	163	165	188	187	183
Ratio ^{1/}	87	85	77	81	76

1/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid.

Dry Bean Production Down from 2007

Idaho's 2008 dry edible bean production is expected to total 1.46 million cwt, down 9 percent from last year's production of 1.60 million cwt. Planted acreage of 80,000 and harvested acreage of 79,000 decreased from last year's 90,000 acres planted and 89,000 acres harvested. Average yield is expected to be 1,850 pounds per acre, up 50 pounds from the previous year.

Pinto production decreased from last year, but continues to account for the largest portion of Idaho's crop with 31.8 percent of Idaho's production. Chickpea (garbanzo) production also decreased from last year, but still accounts for 24.8 percent of the total. The majority of chickpea production is the large type. Small red production increased from last year to account for 14.7 percent of Idaho's production. Pink production accounts for 9.6 percent. Navy production accounts for 5.4 percent. Great Northern production accounts for 4.0 percent of Idaho's production, and black production accounts for 2.6 percent. Light red kidneys, dark red kidneys, cranberries, and other classes made up the remaining dry edible bean production in Idaho. Of the ten classes of dry edible beans estimated for Idaho during 2008, six classes (pinto, chickpea, pink, navy, black, and cranberry) posted production losses from last year, while four classes (small red, great northern, light red kidney, and dark red kidney) increased production from last year.

Nationally, U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 25.7 million cwt for 2008, up 2 percent from the October forecast and up 1 percent from 2007 production. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.45 million acres, 2 percent above the last forecast but 2 percent below the previous year's harvested acreage. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,775 pounds per acre, an increase of 1 pound from the October forecast and 59 pounds above the 2007 yield. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record for the U. S. Production is up from a year ago for large lima, navy, great northern, light red kidney, dark red kidney, pink, small red, cranberry, black, and small chickpeas. Production decreased from last year for baby lima, pinto, blackeye, and large chickpeas.

